

## PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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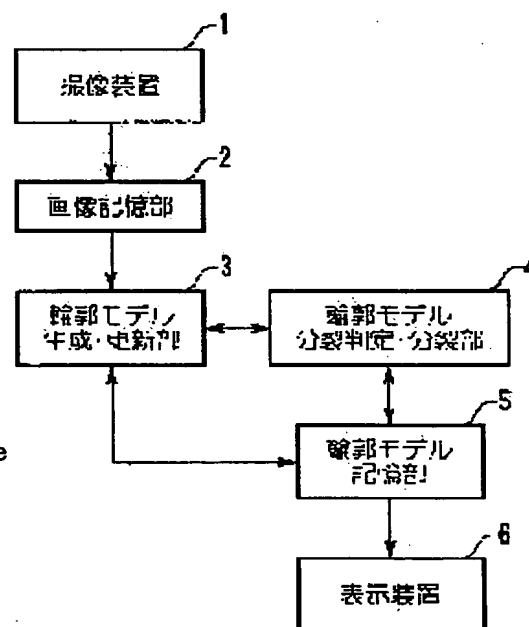
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**(54) DEVICE AND METHOD FOR EXTRACTING OUTLINE AND STORAGE MEDIUM STORING OUTLINE EXTRACTING PROGRAM****(57)Abstract:**

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To provide an outline extracting device capable of precisely extracting an outline shape from an image without any increase of a calculation time.

**SOLUTION:** This outline extracting device is provided with an outline model storing means surrounding at least one object included in a photographed image and storing an outline model for extracting an outline of the object, an outline model deforming means moving nodes constituting the outline model according to a predetermined rule for shrinking/expanding the outline model, a split determining means finding a distance between the nodes not adjacent to each other among the nodes constituting the outline model deformed by the outline model deforming means and determining whether the outline model is split or not if the distance value is lower than a predetermined threshold value, and an outline splitting means splitting the outline model in the vicinities of the two nodes used for finding the distance in split determination according to the determination result by the split determining means.

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